

1915 LEGISLATURE PASSES INTO ISLAND HISTORY

GOVERNOR NAMES C. R. FORBES AS UTILITIES HEAD

Supt. of Public Works Was Appointed Commission Chairman Last Night

SENATE CONFIRMS THE NOMINATION IMMEDIATELY

New Law Reduces Salaries of Officials, Basing Them on Per Diem Work

Charles R. Forbes, superintendent of public works, is the new chairman of the public utilities commission. His appointment by the governor was sent to and confirmed by the senate last night. Mr. Forbes assumes his new duties immediately.

Since the resignation on March 19, 1914, of E. A. Mott-Smith, first chairman of the organization, the commission has been without a permanent head. Since that time Commissioner J. N. S. Williams has been acting chairman. Mr. Williams, with Commissioner A. J. Gignoux, composed the organization. In this respect considerable difficulty often was experienced as each member frequently had business on the other islands, which necessitated a postponement of meetings owing to the lack of a quorum.

Mr. Mott-Smith was appointed by the governor April 30, 1915, the public utilities commission, the commission created by the legislature of two years ago. Commissioner Williams was appointed and confirmed April 30, 1912, for two years and, as his term expires June 30, 1915, it is very likely that the governor again will appoint him. Commissioner Gignoux was appointed by the governor July 1, 1915, for a three-year term. He was confirmed March 18 by the legislature which closed last night.

Under the act passed by the 1913 legislature creating the public utilities commission, the chairman was to receive \$6000 a year and each member \$100 a month. The salaries suffered a marked reduction, however, in Senate Bill 125, passed by the last legislature and signed by the governor. The bill amended section 2221 of the revised laws of Hawaii, 1915, to read as follows:

"Section 2221. Number, appointment, salaries of commissioners. There is created a public utilities commission of three members, who shall be called commissioners and who shall be appointed in the manner prescribed in section 80 of the Organic Act for terms of three years, or the unexpired portions thereof, so that the term of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June of each year, beginning with 1914.

"One member shall also be appointed chairman of the commission. Each member of said commission shall receive compensation at the rate of \$10 per day while actively engaged in the performance of his duties as such commissioner, and any member of the commission may be a salaried member of the territory or of any political subdivision thereof. No person owning any stocks or bonds of any public utility corporation or having any interest, or any remuneration from any public utilities shall be appointed or employed by the commission."

Mr. Forbes said today that he will take up the duties of chairman at once. One suggestion he made was that the office of the commission, now in the Kaula building, be removed to the capitol building. By this means rent would be saved and it probably would be more convenient to the members.

The governor also has appointed G. W. R. King to succeed himself as deputy auditor. The appointment was confirmed by the senate and house. It is understood that the governor will not immediately fill any other vacancies.

The lack of a chairman was called to the attention of the governor in the last annual report of the public utilities commission, although it was not urged that a chairman be appointed nor were any suggestions made as to who the chairman should be.

SAY MENDIOLA THREW MAIL IN OLD ASH BARREL

John P. Mendiola, letter carrier, was arrested by Marshal Smiddy yesterday afternoon on a charge of destroying mail. It is alleged that Mendiola deliberately tore letters into bits and threw the shreds into an ash barrel. No reason for the act could be ascribed to him save that of disinclination to deliver the mail. He was released on \$500 bond to appear in court May 3.

Julian Rondón took the "poor convict's oath" after six months' imprisonment. He was given a plain suit of clothes and \$5 by United States Marshal Smiddy.

Brown's for a dry cough there is nothing better. Instantly relieves throat troubles, hoarseness and coughs. John L. Brown & Son, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

HOUSE CLOSING BIENNIAL TOIL IN ORATORY AND SONG AT MIDNIGHT

Speaker Holstein Is Given Suit-Case and Everybody Praises Work of Committees

As the chimes of Kawaiahao church tolled the midnight hour, the house of representatives adjourned sine die last night.

In the house, at 11:55 p. m., Representative Cooke moved adjournment sine die and before putting the motion, Speaker Holstein took occasion to thank the members for their loyalty to the house leader during this session. At 11:59 he called for a rising vote on the motion to adjourn. Every member present arose to his feet and while the bells tolled midnight the representatives sang "Hawaii Ponoi," followed by "Aloha Oe."

Adjournment at 5:30 had been the plan of the speaker, but a resolution to that end was voted down in favor of the old midnight custom. The house took a recess until 10:30 and most of the time between that hour and adjournment was taken up by speeches of congratulation and thanks by the chairmen of the various committees.

Chairman Tavares of the accounts committee was about the only committee leader who did not sing the praises of his committee. Tavares reminded the house of the attention given to its financial bills and measures by Chairman Norman Watkins of the finance committee. Watkins was unable to be present and in his

absence Tavares paid him high compliment.

Representative Crockett of Maui introduced a resolution of thanks to the speaker and in an accompanying talk he referred to Mr. Holstein as the house "peerless leader."

Reapportionment up briefly.

The session did not die in the house, however, without some closing burst of flame, and this was supplied late in the afternoon when Representative Coney introduced a resolution asking congress to amend the Organic Act so that reapportionment of representatives and senators will not be required at the completion of every census.

The act now requires that such be accomplished, but for three sessions the legislature has neglected to comply with the act, the outside members voting down any attempt at reapportionment, as such move would result in a majority for Oahu in both branches of the legislature. At present control is vested in the other island solons. The resolution was tabled.

Cooke followed with a resolution, asking congress to reapportion the house and senate members and Coney branded this resolution as being to the effect that it asks congress to step in and "spank us for not doing our duty." It was tabled by a vote of 18 to 12.

Gift for Speaker.

Speaker Holstein was presented with a leather suitcase before recess was taken. Representative Crockett making the presentation speech.

As a token of regard from the members, President Chillingworth was presented with a handsome coat-of-arms watch fob, the fob being set with a large diamond. The presentation speech was made by Senator Wirtz, the "grammarian of the senate."

"This is one of the rare occasions when a man has a chance to express his feelings," said the senator, "and I am proud of the occasion. I am also proud to state that the who cannot tuck his own horn should not lend it to his neighbor to tuck."

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LOVE-FEAST IN SENATE; MEMBERS GET VERBAL AND REAL BOUQUETS

President Chillingworth Presented With Watch-Fob By Colleagues

Working on until the last moment in order to pass out of existence with a clean calendar, the senate of the eighth legislature adjourned sine die last night at 12 o'clock.

From 10:30 o'clock until the closing hour the time was about equally divided between actual session work, speeches and expressions of sentiment concerning the work of the upper house. As the hour of midnight approached, Mayor John C. Lane entered the senate and was accorded a seat on the dais with President Chillingworth. Later Governor Pinkham paid a visit and was escorted to the dais. He remained until adjournment.

In every speech made during the evening, both by members of the senate and by officials, attention was called to the harmony with which the upper housemen have worked together during the session; the good fellowship which prevailed and the absence of politics as concerned the introducing and handling of bills and resolutions. A desire was expressed by several that when the legislature sits two years from now, the members of the late senate will again occupy the seats which they last night vacated after 60 days.

The closing session was well attended by persons other than the senators, including a large number of territorial and city officials and their wives, attorneys and businessmen.

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